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there was informal discussion as to how to increase the scope and effectiveness of the Birmingham library. Ex-Governor Sims introduced a resolution which was adopted, calling for the passage of a general library law by the Alabama legislature. A resolution was adopted also urging the election in Birmingham of legislators who would stand as sponsors for such a law.

The Secretary of the A. L. A. was invited to inspect the library at the U. S. Penitentiary in Atlanta, Georgia, and gave two talks in Atlanta, before the library training school of the Carnegie library.

Following the meeting of the Mississippi Library Association last October, notices were sent out for a conference of the executive and legislative committees of that Association. Mr Hadley was asked to attend the committees' conference in Jackson, and the time was spent in considering important library legislation in which the Mississippi Library Association is greatly interested.

Mr Hadley's visit to New Orleans followed the invitation of the Library Club of that city. There was no state library association in Louisiana but members of the club believed such an organization was badly needed. Letters were sent over the state and more than thirty library workers and trustees responded when the opening meeting was held at Tulane University. The Secretary of the A. L. A. was asked to assist in the meetings and discussions. Sessions lasting two days were held and such was the interest shown, that before the final adjournment, the Louisiana Library Association was organized, a constitution adopted and officers elected for the coming year. A meeting of the newly organized Association has been called to convene in Alexandria, Louisiana, early in the spring, prior to the meeting of the Louisiana legislature. Library legislation is needed along certain lines and the state association will endeavor to have some good library laws enacted.

In response to the request of Oklahoma librarians, Alice S. Tyler, Secretary of the Iowa Library Commission, was designated to represent the A. L. A. at the Oklahoma State Teachers' Association, held in Oklahoma City, December 27th. The question of a library commission had been under consideration, and the advantages from such a Commission with the comparative little expense involved were discussed. Letters expressing great appreciation of Miss Tyler's services have been received at the A. L. A. executive office.

MACKINAC ISLAND CONFERENCE

At the meeting of the Executive Board of the A. L. A. January 4, it was decided to hold the 1910 conference of the American Library Association at Mackinac Island, Michigan. This choice was made on condition that satisfactory hotel rates and accommodations could be obtained, and there is every reason to believe these will be secured.

Because of the number of American librarians who are planning to attend the International Congress of Librarians and Archivists in Brussels next August, the Executive Board had looked with favor on New York City as the next A. L. A. meeting place. It was found inadvisable to meet in New York this year however.

Librarians who know Mackinac Island best are the most enthusiastic over its selection for the next A. L. A. conference. It has unusual historical, topographical and romantic interest. Mackinac Island is about three miles long and two miles wide and lies at the juncture of lakes Huron and Michigan. In its small area there is great diversity of scenery, with harbors, caves, towering rocks and beautiful forests. The altitude of Mackinac Island rises to 318 feet above the surrounding waters and the mean temperature for many years has been 57 degrees in June, 65 in July and 64 in August.

The summit of the island is crowned by old Fort Mackinac built in 1780, and

among other interesting features are the beautiful boulevard which encircles the island, Scott's cave, Sugar Loaf, Arch and Temple Rocks, the historic battlefield, Indian burying ground, etc. The views from the rocks mentioned above are impressive. The waters surrounding Mackinac Island are cold and wonderfully clear and afford splendid sport to fishermen.

Mackinac Island is a strategic point and was in possession of the French in early days. The British took it in 1760, and it was captured by Pontiac in the Indian revolt of 1763. It was one of the early frontier posts of the Astor Fur Co. and is now a military post and reservation of the United States.

Several large hotels of good reputation are on the island, which is reached by several railroad and steamship lines. The largest boats on the lakes stop at Mackinac Island from Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago and other lake cities.

Detailed information as to rates and routes of travel will be printed in later numbers of the A. L. A. Bulletin. Exact dates of the 1910 conference cannot be announced definitely at this time, but it is expected that July 1 will be near the time for the opening session.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board of the American Library Association met in Chicago, January 4, 1910. The members present were N. D. C. Hodges, James I. Wyer, Jr., Alice S. Tyler, Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf, C. W. Andrews, Purd B. Wright and Henry E. Legler.

After a statement by the president, N. D. C. Hodges, as to the inadvisability of holding the 1910 Conference in New York City, there was an informal discussion, after which it was voted, that Mackinac Island, Michigan, be selected as the meeting place of the American Library Association on condition of satisfactory rates, conference rooms, etc., being granted.

Committees

A letter was read from H. C. Wellman in which he tendered his resignation as chairman of the Committee on library administration. It was voted, that Harrison W. Craver be appointed chairman of the Committee on library administration. It was voted also, that Theresa Hitchler be appointed chairman of the Committee on catalog rules for small libraries, with power to appoint the other members of that committee.

Reports were received from the various committees outlining committee work for the ensuing year. The Committee on library training reported to the Executive Board as follows:

"For some years past, members of the American Library Association have repeatedly called the attention of the Committee on library training to the fact that on account of the rapid increase of schools and other agencies for library training, an examination of such places of study by the Committee would be of great value."

"It has seemed to the Committee that in this matter merely ex parte statements from the schools themselves or from others ought not to be accepted, but that any expression of opinion on the part of the Committee on library training should be made only after a careful examination by competent examiners, of the existing facilities for library training. It is the judgment of the Committee that the present situation calls for a very careful examination of the present opportunities for library training. The Committee therefore desires, during the coming season, to give to all such places of training an opportunity to be examined. Such examinations would be conducted by at least two thoroughly trained persons selected by the Committee on library training, the same examiners to inspect all the schools desiring it. Only such schools as wish to be examined will be visited."

"If the schools should accept the opportunity of examination offered by the Committee, it will, of course be necessary